

Closed Captioning vs. Live Transcription

Closed captions and live transcription are both methods for providing text-based versions of spoken language, but they differ in terms of when they are created and how they are used. They are both incredibly important for people with disabilities, particularly those who are deaf or hard of hearing. They provide access to audio content that might otherwise be inaccessible, allowing people to fully participate in and enjoy various forms of media and events.

Closed captions are pre-prepared text versions of the audio that are synchronized with the video content. They are typically used for recorded media, such as TV shows, movies, and online videos. Closed captions are usually created in advance by a transcriptionist or by using speech recognition software and are then edited and timed to match the audio. They can be turned on or off by the viewer and can be customized for font size, color, and positioning on the screen.

Live transcription, on the other hand, is the real-time conversion of spoken language into text. It is typically used in live events, such as conferences, meetings, or presentations, where it is important for participants to have access to an accurate transcription of what is being said in real time. Live transcription can be provided by a human transcriptionist, by using automated speech recognition software, or by a combination of both. It is displayed on a screen or monitor in real-time, and participants can follow along as the transcription is generated.